



## 2010 dates for your diary:

- **31st March & 1st April** - Children's Easter Camp
- **14th April** - Deaf Parents Information Session 2
- **15th April** - Coffee Morning for Deaf Adults
- **28th April** - Deaf Parents Information Session 3
- **29th April** - Arklow Outreach Clinic 10:30-4pm (see inside)
- **20th May** - Coffee Morning for Deaf Adults
- **17th June** - Coffee Morning for Deaf Adults
- **1st July** - Teenager's Day Out to Wales
- **7th-9th July** - Children's Summer Camp
- **19th-23rd July** - Hearing Screening at Civic Theatre Tallaght
- **26th-30th July** - Hearing Screening at New Civic Centre, Ballyfermot
- **22nd August** - Family Day Out
- **7th October** - Parents of Deaf Children Information Session 1
- **14th October** - Parents of Deaf Children Information Session 2
- **18th-22nd October** - Hearing Screening at Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Council Offices Social Inclusion week
- **28th-29th October** - Children's Halloween Camp
- **12th December** - Children's Christmas Party



# DeafHear.ie

Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

Spring 2010

Deafhear.ie Dublin South

## DeafHear.ie launches The National Hearing Screening Project 2010



Our new National Hearing Screening project was launched on 23rd February 2010 with popular RTE Presenter Miriam O'Callaghan among the first to have her hearing screened. The project will provide 1,000 free



hearing screening checks in 2010 to people over 40 years of age nationwide. The project aims to raise awareness of the prevalence and impact of acquired hearing loss, to encourage those with acquired hearing loss to seek support, and to provide information on supports available and how to communicate with deaf and hard of hearing people.

As part of the project over 5,000 information leaflets will be distributed to the public, with facts and information on hearing loss and ageing, assistive technology and Hearing Therapy. Throughout the year, a number of leading personalities will have their hearing screened. Updates on the project will be available on DeafHear's website [www.deafhear.ie](http://www.deafhear.ie)

### Some facts about hearing loss:

- Approximately one person in seven has a hearing loss.
- 20% of people aged over 50, and 40% of people aged over 70, have a significant disabling hearing loss.
- People who acquire a significant hearing loss wait on average 10 years before seeking help and support.
- Older people have identified maintaining family relationships as the singular most important aspect of their lives: acquired hearing loss is the most significant cause of social isolation among older people.

If you are interested in taking part in the project and getting your hearing screened for free, please contact us at DeafHear.ie Dublin South Regional Office (see back page for contact details)



# Arklow Outreach



Recent cutbacks and the subsequent downturn of our economy have resulted in scale back of all of DeafHear's outreach clinics.

One area sorely missing DeafHear services was Arklow. Bowing to persistent demand from clients we are delighted to announce a once off Outreach Clinic in the Arklow Health Centre on Tuesday 4th May.

The Outreach service is free, confidential and open to all deaf/hard of hearing people and their families. We can offer advice, information, Deaftech demonstration and minor hearing aid repairs.

Do contact Julianne Gillen at the Dublin South office to make an appointment.

## DeafHear Outreach Clinic

### Arklow Health Centre

(in Primary Care Section)

on

**Tuesday 4th May**

**10:30am-3:00pm**

For more information contact:

Julianne Gillen

DeafHear Dublin South

(01) 4620377 or (087) 6845958

# Introducing CHESTER!



**We would like to formally introduce Chester the Dog our newest addition to the Dublin South Team!**

DeafHear's resident Audiologist Emma McAuley became the first person in the Republic to use a specially trained hearing dog to act as her ears when Chester came into her life last year.

Chester is a two-year-old "cockerpoo", a cross between a Cocker Spaniel and a Poodle, who was bred by the UK-based Hearing Dogs for Deaf People organisation and underwent extensive training to prepare him for his life as a working dog. Chester wakes Emma up in the morning when the alarm clock goes off by pawing at the duvet, he alerts her when the phone, the doorbell or the cooker timer rings or when a colleague calls her in the office.

"He does this by coming and touching me with his paw and then taking me to the source of sound. He is also trained to alert me to the smoke/fire alarm and burglar alarm, both at home, in work and in public places. With these sounds he alerts me and then drops to the ground which tells me it is a danger sound." Emma explains. Chester does not moult, which is important for the office and clinical environment, it also means that people who have an allergy to dogs will not be affected by him. Chester is already very popular with all our clients and adored by all the staff and children who attend our camp!

*Adapted from the Irish Times article written by ÉIBHIR MULQUEEN*

# Volunteers Needed

Interested in becoming a volunteer with **DeafHear.ie**? Your time and skill can make a real difference to the area of deaf and hard of hearing people in your area.

People volunteer with **DeafHear.ie** for many different reasons including:

- Some people find it rewarding.
- Others want to gain valuable work experience or further education.
- Some want to learn new skills.
- Many know someone who was supported by **DeafHear.ie** and want to give something back



Volunteers are involved in activities, which provide direct services or indirect services to deaf and hard of hearing service users.

**Direct Services** involve contact with deaf and hard of hearing people in the community or in Resource Centres e.g. Community based volunteers which include activities such as carrying out social visits and assisting **DeafHear** staff on outings and respite events. The list is not exhaustive and volunteer activities are based on the expressed needs of service users. They are designed and carried out in accordance with the organisations mission to promote the independence of deaf and hard of hearing people.

**Indirect Service** involve tasks which benefit the community and organisation but do not include contact with deaf and hard of hearing people such as administrative support in **DeafHear**.

If you are interested in being a volunteer: please contact **Emma McAuley** in **DeafHear.ie** Dublin South Resource Centre, Exchange Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24. Mobile: (086) 6073101 email: [emma.mcauley@deafhear.ie](mailto:emma.mcauley@deafhear.ie)

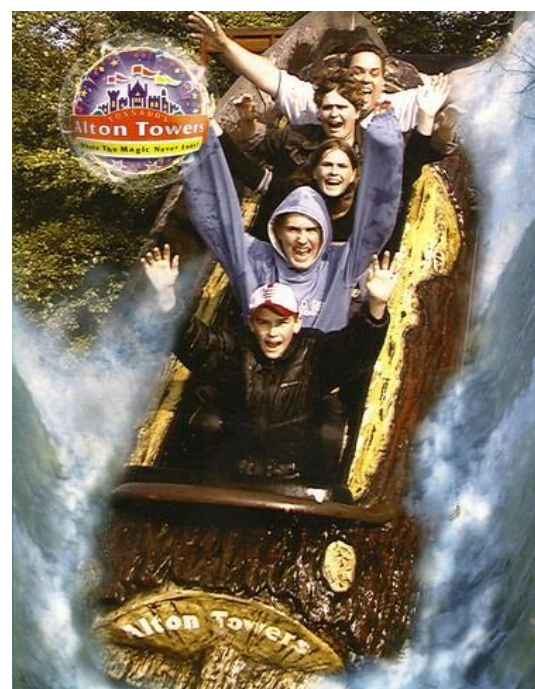
# Teenage Day Out...

**DeafHear** Dublin South are planning a special Teenage Day Out for Thursday 1st July 2010... to... **ALTON TOWERS!**

This day trip is open to all Deaf/Hard of Hearing young people age 11 plus. We will be leaving late evening on 30th June and returning early in morning on 2nd July.

Special subsidised cost is estimated at €150 per person to include meals, return overnight ferry to/from Wales, bus to Alton Towers and day passes. This price is only an estimate based on quotes given, it may increase or decrease depending on numbers.

**This tour will only go ahead if we have 10 or more participants are booked. To register your interest please contact Julianne at Dublin South Office before 30th April.**







# Services Provided By DeafHear.ie

## Family Support Service

The Family Support Team provides a strictly confidential service to deaf/hard of hearing. This services include:

- Counselling
- Mental Health Support
- Support & Advocacy
- Parenting Advice

## Communication Support

Service include:

- Organising communication support i.e sign language interpreters and speed text operators.
- Arranging sign language classes for families, teachers, employers professionals workers etc.
- Deaf Awareness Training

## Community Information Support

Service include:

- Information and advice on social welfare, health services and entitlements, for example disability allowance, medical cards etc.
- Liaison with other services
- Phone contacting service
- Assistance with general queries
- Tinnitus support groups
- Deafness related queries

## Deaftech

Deaftech is the technology information and demonstration service for non-medical equipment and aids used by deaf/hard of hearing people in daily living and employment services

Service include:

- Demonstration of commonly used aids for independent living.
- Assessment of individual equipment and technical needs

## Training and Employment

Service include:

- CV Preparation
- Career Advice
- Job Placement
- Deaf Awareness training for business
- Assistance with work place adaptation
- Referral to training and employment, e.g. FAS,
- Job Clubs, Supported Employment



# DeafHear.ie

Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

For further information about any of our services, contact use at

**DeafHear.ie Dublin South Resource Centre**

Unit G/H Exchange Hall

Belgard Square North

Tallaght, Dublin 24

Phone: (01) 462 0377 Fax: (01) 462 0378

Mobile: (086) 171 6284

Email: [dublinsouth@deafhear.ie](mailto:dublinsouth@deafhear.ie)

